

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for measuring a rotational speed of a pulse-activated electric motor, comprising:
 - fully activating the pulse-activated electric motor for a defined measuring time by a circuit element provided for pulsing at a time interval to be determined; and
 - during the time interval, measuring a frequency of current ripples, the frequency being proportional to the rotational speed.
2. The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
 - measuring a current-proportional voltage; and
 - converting the measured current-proportional voltage to a square-wave voltage after filtering out a DC component.
3. The method as recited in Claim 2, further comprising:
 - determining intervals between one of rising edges and falling edges of square-wave voltage pulses in order to determine a frequency of the square-wave voltage.
4. The method as recited in Claim 2, further comprising:
 - determining intervals between time midpoints of square-wave voltage pulses in order to determine a frequency of the square-wave voltage.
5. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
 - at least one of time intervals and measuring times are kept variable as a function of at least one of a supply voltage, a temperature, and load torque.
6. A device for measuring a rotational speed of a pulse-activated electric motor, comprising:
 - a circuit element;
 - a current-proportional voltage measuring device located on the circuit element;
 - an amplifier located on a side of the circuit element;
 - a plurality of filters located on the side of the circuit element; and

an evaluation unit for determining a frequency of current ripples of a current flowing in a measured phase in which the pulse-activated electric motor is fully activated.

7. The device as recited in Claim 6, wherein:

the evaluation unit includes a comparator for converting an AC component of a current-proportional voltage into square-wave voltage pulses.